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Relations between Greece and Turkey are getting worse. At the least this will complicate the US and NATO efforts not to let this long-standing regional rivalry undermine the Western security posture. At the worst this deteriorating situation could lead to military clashes. The major developments that have led to the present crisis are:

- The Greek proclamation of a new defense doctrine and the Turkish response to it.
- The intensified maneuvering of Turkish and Greek aircraft in the airspace around the Aegean island which is claimed by the Greeks.
- The breakdown of Cyprus talks
- Domestic trends in both countries that suggest that each will be less inclined to conciliation toward the other -- and towards US wishes -- in the future.